



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3077

**OAHU REAL PROPERTY TAX
ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Commissioners:

Ray Kamikawa, Chair
Scott Higashi, Vice Chair
Amy Hirano
Natalie Iwasa
Joy Kimura
Earl Mente
Matthew Pennaz

WRITTEN SUMMARY FOR AUDIO RECORD

REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2019

COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING ROOM
2ND FLOOR, HONOLULU HALE
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

The time references below indicate the point in the audio recording when the stated actions began.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Oahu Real Property Tax Advisory Commission was called to order by Commission Chair Kamikawa at 1:30 p.m. Commissioners Kamikawa, Higashi, Hirano, Kimura, Mente, and Pennaz were present at the meeting. Commissioner Natalie Iwasa was late to the meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

WELCOME BY COMMISSION CHAIR

[1:30 p.m.] [Start of recording]

At this juncture, Commission Chair Kamikawa welcomed the Commissioners at the meeting. Commission Chair Kamikawa noted the memorandum issued by Council Chair Anderson regarding the digital minutes used to record the proceedings of the Commission.

ORAL TESTIMONY

[1:32 p.m.] [2 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa asked for testifiers to present testimony. Commission Chair Kamikawa called the Department of Budget and Fiscal Services representative Steven Takara, Real Property Assessment Division Administrator as the first speaker to present testimony.

No other testifiers were present.

[1:34 p.m.] [4 minute mark]

Commissioner Natalie Iwasa entered the room.

[1:34 p.m.] [4 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa welcomed Commissioner Iwasa to her first meeting and asked her to introduce herself to the Commission. Commissioner Iwasa introduced herself. Commission Chair Kamikawa thanked Commissioner Iwasa.

REVIEW OF PENDING REAL PROPERTY TAX LEGISLATION

[1:35 p.m.] [5 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa introduced pending legislation, Bills 30 and 33, which were up for review and discussion. Commission Chair called upon BFS representative Steven Takara to be available to answer questions from the Commissioners.

[1:38 p.m.] [8 minute mark]

Discussion was held among the Commissioners and BFS representative Takara.

[1:43 p.m.] [13 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa introduced Bill 33 for review and discussion among the members. Discussion was held among the Commissioners and BFS representative Takara.

COMMISSION GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND TIMETABLE

[1:58 p.m.] [28 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa called attention to the Commission's responsibilities outlined in Council Resolution 17-112.

[1:59 p.m.] [29 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa opened up general discussion about the goals, objectives, and timetable for the Commission's work, and proposed that, given the time constraints set by the December 1 deadline to submit the Commission's work, the Commissioners divide themselves into subcommittees to meet between the Commission's monthly meetings to formulate and draft recommendations for reports on updates at each Commission meeting.

[2:00 p.m.] [30 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa proposed forming three special committees on valuation, classification and rates, and credits and exemptions to be comprised of at least two commissioners for each committee.

[2:05 p.m.][35 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa requested suggestions or proposals from the Commissioners regarding division into committees.

[2:06 p.m.] [36 minute mark]

Discussion was held regarding the Sunshine Law conduct during the meetings of the special committees.

[2:11 p.m.] [41 minute mark]

Discussion was held among the Commissioners regarding future scheduling and the availability of the Department of Budget and Fiscal Services representative Steven Takara at the scheduled meeting for September 12, 2019. Commission Chair Kamikawa suggested rescheduling the September meeting to September 19, 2019 to accommodate the availability of BFS Representative Takara and the Commissioners.

[2:12 p.m.] [42 minute mark]

Commissioners agreed to the proposed date for the rescheduled September meeting. Commission Chair Kamikawa proposed rescheduling the Commission's October regular meeting from October 10 to October 17, 2019. The Commissioners agreed to reschedule the October meeting to October 17, 2019.

[2:13 p.m.] [43 minute mark]

Discussion was held among BFS representative Takara and Commissioners Hirano, Pennaz, and Iwasa.

[2:15 p.m.] [45 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa asked for a motion to create three special committees on (1) valuation; (2) classification and rates; and (3) credits and exemptions. The motion was made by Commissioner Mente and seconded by Commissioner Hirano. The Commission voted in favor of creating three special committees and the motion passed.

[2:17 p.m.] [47 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa asked for volunteers to serve on the valuation committee. Commissioners Iwasa, Higashi, and Mente volunteered. Commission Chair Kamikawa named Commissioners Iwasa, Higashi, and Mente to the valuation committee.

Commission Chair Kamikawa asked for volunteers to serve on the classification and rates committee. Commissioners Kimura and Hirano volunteered. Commission Chair Kamikawa named Commissioners Kimura and Hirano to the classification and rates committee.

Commission Chair Kamikawa asked for volunteers to serve on the credits and exemptions committee. Commissioners Kimura and Pennaz volunteered. Commission Chair Kamikawa named Commissioners Kimura and Pennaz to the credits and exemptions committee.

[2:19 p.m.] [49 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa asked for chairs to be named for each special committee.

Commissioner Iwasa was named to be chair for the valuation committee. Commissioner Kimura was named to be chair for the classification and rates committee. Commissioner Pennaz was named to be the chair for the credits and exemptions committee.

[2:21 p.m.] [51 minute mark]

Discussion was held between Commissioners and BFS representative Takara and Commissioners regarding valuation and the City's tax program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[2:54 p.m.] [1 hour, 24 minute mark]

Commission Chair Kamikawa stated that the next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

No testifiers were present or offered testimony.

Commission Chair Kamikawa concluded announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Commission Chair Kamikawa at 2:54 p.m. [1 hour, 24 minute mark]